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Federal Communications Commission

Re: WT Docket No. 05-235

I would like file a comment “opposing” the elimination of the morse code testing requirement. In my view, code proficiency is integral to demonstrating one’s ability to operate on the amateur HF bands. Approximately 40 percent of the activity on HF is morse code.

The benefits of morse code are numerous. One example that stands out is the recent Tsunami event in the Indian Ocean. Morse code was widely used because of its ability to sustain communications and also because equipment only able to transmit in morse code was available to assist.

Morse code is an international language. America as a world leader needs to be able to stay at the forefront. In the Amateur Radio Service, this means top class operators. Morse code testing is one of the few tools available to prove the ability to operate an amateur HF station.

Additionally, retaining the morse code testing requirement as a prerequisite to HF introduces amateur radio operators to an exciting and useful mode of operation.

Regards,
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